

Message Text

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17

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-11 OMB-01 ARA-10 DHA-02 ORM-02 AID-05

ACDA-10 EA-09 /125 W

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R 121623Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7085

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 1470

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IV, AO

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL ON US ACCEPTANCE OF SOVIET "COUP DE
FORCE" IN ANGOLA

REFERENCE ABIDJAN 1241(NOTAL)

1. EDITORIAL IN GOIC-CONTROLLED WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE IVOIRE
DIMANCHE OF FEBRUARY 8 ENTITLED "A SETTLED AFFAIR"(AFFAIRE
CLASSEE) COMMENTS ON SECRETARY KISSINGER'S FEBRUARY 3
SPEECH IN SAN FRANCISCO. OPENING WITH QUOTATION FROM SPEECH
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WARNING SOVIETS THAT ANGOLA SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED A

PRECEDENT AND REASSURING NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE ABANDONED IN THE EVENT OF AN ATTACK OR PRESSURE FROM THE NEW SOVIET-CUBAN BEACHHEAD, EDITORIAL GOES ON TO INTERPRET THIS AS US ACCEPTANCE OF THE AFFAIR AS SETTLED. IN EFFECT THIS MEANS THE WORLD'S GREATEST DEMOCRACY IS BOWING BEFORE THE SOVIET "COUP DE FORCE" IN ANGOLA.

2. EDITORIAL GOES ON TO COMMENT THAT AFTER RECOGNIZING THIS IMPOTENCE, THE US ATTEMPT TO REASSURE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES LACK CONVICTION FOR AFRICANS WHO SUDDENLY FEEL "A CHILL ON THEIR NECK". FOR AFRICANS, VIETNAM WITH ITS FIRE AND ITS BLOOD "WAS NOT OUR PROBLEM, WE THOUGHT NAIVELY. IT WAS FAR AWAY IN THE ASIAN JUNGLES. SUDDENLY THE COLD WAR BREAKS IN UPON US AND TROUBLES OUR OWN TRANQUILITY. ABSORBED IN THE PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT SUCH AS FOOD, HEALTH, LODGING AND EDUCATION, WILL AFRICAN LEADERS FIND THE TIME TO EXAMINE CLOSELY THE THREATS WHICH LOOM AND TO PRESERVE US FROM THEM."

3. EDITORIAL GOES ON TO SAY THAT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN ANGOLA IS GRAVE. A FRACTION OF THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE UNDER THE SWAY OF LEADERS COMMITTED TO A FOREIGN IDEOLOGY IS IMPOSING ITS LAW ON THE REMAINDER OF THE PEOPLE BY FORCE OF SOVIET ARMS AND 10,000 CUBAN SOLDIERS. EDITORIAL COMMENTS THAT THIS FOREIGN INTERFERENCE WOULD BE EQUALLY TO BE CONDEMNED WERE IT TO HAVE COME FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE INSTEAD OF THE SOVIET SINCE IN EITHER CASE IT IS CONTRARY TO THE AFRICAN SPIRIT.

4. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES THAT "WITHOUT ELECTIONS, WITHOUT REFERENDUM, WE ARE IMPOTENTLY LETTING THE IRON CURTAIN FALL ON ANGOLA." THIS IS A SHAME FOR AFRICA AND WE SHOULD NOT BE AFRAID TO SAY SO. THE ONLY CHANCE FOR AFRICA IS THE PATH OF NEUTRALITY AND TOLERANCE ADVOCATED BY PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY. SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ABIDJA01470
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760055-0462
From: ABIDJAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760257/aaaabxss.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: housmasa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2004 by oatisao>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by housmasa>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDITORIAL ON US ACCEPTANCE OF SOVIET "COUP DE FORCE" IN ANGOLA
TAGS: PFOR, IV, AO, CU, US, UR, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006